Illegal Blood Trade

3701. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many private and public blood banks are involved in illegal blood trade;

(b) if so, the number of blood banks identified and details of those proceeded against by Government authorities; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to stop illegal trading of blood in blood banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) There have been isolated incidences of illegal blood trade like operation of unlicensed blood banks and collection of blood from paid donors by private blood banks. There has been no instance of Government Blood Banks indulging in illegal blood trade.

(b) Recently two blood banks at Meerut involved in illegal trade of blood were ordered to stop collection of blood from 14* June, 2001 under the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Rules and are being prosecuted. Licenses of 5 blood banks in Andhra Pradesh were also withdrawn for not conforming to the norms of Drugs & Cosmetics Rules.

(c) Professional Donation of blood has been banned in the country since 1st January, 1998. For generating enough blood through voluntary blood donation programme, the Government of India have taken a number of steps such as media campaign through TV, AIR and newspapers, developing IEC material for one-to-one communication, observation of National Voluntary Blood Donation day on 1 st October every year, encouraging rational use of blood among clinicians and the launching of special campaign to educate masses to support voluntary blood donation. Strict vigilance is being maintained by Drugs Controllers of all States to ensure that no paid donation takes place and no unlicensed blood banks operate.

PHCsinU.P.

3702. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Health Centres functioning in the rural areas of U.P.;

(b) whether these Centres have been provided with full sanctioned strength;

(c) the population covered by each Centre against the all-India average;

(d) the amount of money spent on these Centres during the last three years and the number of persons benefited from their services; and

(e) the number of new Centres proposed to be opened during 2001 -2002?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. P. THAKUR): (a) There are 3808 Primary Health Centres, functioning in rural areas of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Government is aware of certain gaps in the availability of trained manpower in Primary Health Centres in U.P. Appointment of staff of Primary Health Centres is done by State Government who has been advised to fill up all vacancies quickly. Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme Government is also assisting the State Government by providing funds for contractural appointments of additional ANM's, Lady Doctors, Lab technician & Public Health Nurses etc.

(c) The average population covered by a Primary Health Centre in U.P. is 35363 against all India average of 31387.

(d) Primary Health Centres are established and maintained by respective State Governments out of funds provided under State sector Budget/Basic Minimum Services Programme. In Addition, the State also receives, from the Central Government, Additional Central Assistance for selected priority sectors including Primary Health Care. The funds provided to Uttar Pradesh, under MNP/BMS, during the last 3 years, are as follows:

1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01
		(Rs.in lakh)
27813	15413.57	30,200*

*Total outlay for Health.

In addition the State has been allocated Rs. 5233 lakh for Primary Health, under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY).

Primary Health Centres provide clinical (mainly out-patient) as also preventive and promotive health services to the population covered by them.

(e) Planning Commission/Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has not given any target for opening of new Primary Health Centre in Uttar Pradesh during 2001-2002.